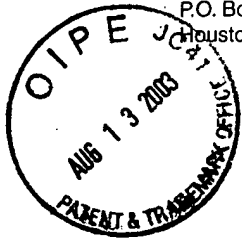


08/14/03 2863

**ExxonMobil**  
**Upstream Research Company**  
P.O. Box 2189  
Houston, Texas 77252-2189

**Gary P. Katz**  
Attorney



**ExxonMobil**

August 1, 2003

**VIA Express Mail No. ET608077090US**

Examiner Victor Taylor  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop - Patent Application  
Washington, DC 20231

**ET 608077090 US**

Re: ExxonMobil Upstream Research Company  
US Patent Application No. 09/973,529 filed on October 9, 2001  
"Method for Borehole Measurement of Formation Properties"  
Attorney Docket No. PM 2000.010A

Examiner Taylor:

In accordance with your telephone instructions of yesterday, July 31, 2003, please find enclosed copies of the following requested documents for the above-identified patent application.

- ☐ Copy of the PCT International Search Report
- ☐ Copy of the PCT International Preliminary Examination Report
- ☐ Copy of the Postcard evidencing receipt of the disclosure documents on 01/29/02.
- ☐ Copy of the Postcard evidencing receipt of additional disclosure documents on 02/26/02.
- ☐ Copies of the 74 non-patent references in 6 clipped sections.
- ☐ Replacement Abstract

At your instruction, copies of the patent references are not included in this package.

Kindly confirm your receipt of these documents by return facsimile at 713.431.4664. Should you have any questions or require additional information, you may contact me by telephone at 713.431.4577 or by facsimile at 713.431.4664.

Very truly yours,

GPk:W&M:mjs  
c: J.A. Jennings

RECEIVED  
AUG 13 2003  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 32800



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re application of:**

**H. Thomann et al.**

**Serial No. 09/973,529**

**Filed: October 9, 2001**

**Title: "Method For Borehole  
Measurement of Formation  
Properties"**

**Confirmation No.: 6842**

**Examiner: Victor J. Taylor**

**Art Unit: 2863**

**Docket No.: 2000.010A**

**Date: August 1, 2003**

Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S TELEPHONE SUGGESTION**

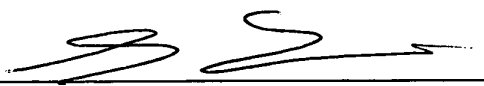
This communication is in response to Examiner's telephone request of July 31, 2003 to amend the abstract and provide additional copies of the non-patent references previously cited in the Information Disclosures dated January 29, 2002 and February 26, 2002.

RECEIVED  
AUG 13 2003  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Please direct any questions to the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 13, 2003

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary P. Katz  
Reg. No. 46,099

ExxonMobil Upstream Research Company  
3120 Buffalo Speedway  
P. O. Box 2189  
Houston, Texas 77252-2189  
Telephone: 713/431-4577  
Facsimile: 713/431-4664

**Certification under 37 CFR §§ 1.8(a) and 1.10**

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this application/correspondence attached hereto is being:

**MAILING**

☒ deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

37 C.F.R. § 1.10

☐ with sufficient postage as first class mail.

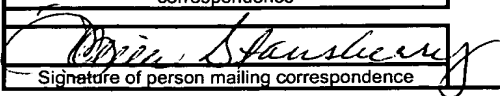
☒ as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee"

Monica Stansberry

Typed or printed name of person mailing correspondence

ET608077090US

Express Mail mailing number

  
Signature of person mailing correspondence

August 13, 2003

Date of Deposit

**TRANSMISSION**

☐ transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office at facsimile number:

## **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The present invention is a method of estimating formation properties by analyzing acoustic waves that are emitted from and received by a bottom hole assembly. A bottom hole assembly deployed in a borehole to estimate formation properties. From the bottom hole assembly, a source signal is emitted and at least one signal is received by one or more receivers in the bottom hole assembly. Analysis of the frequency dependent characteristics of the received signal allows the estimation of the formation properties of interest including pore pressure. The formation properties of interest may be used to monitoring the wellbore pressure safety margin and optimizing the weight of drilling mud.